7th February 1924]

Basis of fixing the salary of subordinate service.

191 *Q.*—Mr. L. C. GURUSWAMI : Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased—

(*a*) to call for and lay on the table all the supplemental instructions and circulars issued by the Government and the Accountant-General to the heads of departments regarding the interpretation of G.O. No. 711, Financial, dated 11th July 1921 ;

(*b*) to lay on the table the Fundamental Rules with the latest correction slips or orders issued by them ;

(*c*) to explain in detail why the period of three months prior to 1st March 1921 was ordered to be taken into consideration in fixing the initial pay of subordinates ; and

(*d*) to state whether it is the intention of the Government to fix the average initial salary of subordinates for a period of one year prior to 1st April 1921 as defined in rule 9 (2) of the Fundamental Rules and to cancel G.O. No. 711, Financial, dated 11th July 1921, with retrospective effect from 1921 ?

A.—(*a*) The Government in the Finance Department have not issued any supplemental instructions or circulars. They see no reason for laying on the table instructions issued by the Accountant-General to give effect to the orders of the Government.

(*b*) The hon. Member is referred to the *Fort St. George Gazette*, in which the rules in question have been published.

(*c*) The ordinary rule for bringing officers on fixed pay on to an incremental scale was contained in articles 157 and 158, Civil Service Regulations, to which the corresponding provision in the Fundamental Rules is to be found in rules 22 and 23. This involved bringing the officers on to the time-scale at a stage equal to or just above their substantive pay which would have meant a reduction of salary in a great majority of cases. The purpose of the revision was to merge the temporary allowances in pay and to convert the graded scales of pay into incremental scales, and the Government wished to do this with as little variation as possible of the rates of pay the officers were drawing at the time. They therefore decided that the fairest all-round course that could be adopted was to base their calculations upon the total of substantive pay, temporary allowance and acting allowance drawn in the three months before the order took effect.

(*d*) Rule 9 (2) of the Fundamental Rules defines ' average pay ' for the purposes of calculating leave allowances. It has no connexion with the order in question. The Government have no intention of cancelling the order and embarking with retrospective effect upon another revision of salaries of several thousands of Government officers.

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